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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/529,303	03/25/2005	Stuart Charles Wray	038665.56061US	4773
23911	7590	11/21/2007		
CROWELL & MORING LLP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP P.O. BOX 14300 WASHINGTON, DC 20044-4300			EXAMINER JACKSON, JENISE E	
			ART UNIT 2131	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/21/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/529,303	Applicant(s) WRAY, STUART CHARLES	
	Examiner Jenise E. Jackson	Art Unit 2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Williams(2003/0005331).

3. As per claim 1, Williams discloses a method of improving the security of computer communications over a connecting network which connects a plurality of user domains(see fig. 3 sheet 3), at least one of which user domains includes a network of a plurality of computers, each of which user domains has a domain separator(18, i.e. security device, see fig. 1-2, sheet 1-2) that is coupled in data communication with each computer which is connected to the network of computers(see fig. 1-2, 0029), a domain separator tagging(i.e. labeling) the data packet from a user domain with a security level marking[0053, 0122], and a domain separator appending the tagged data packet with a string formed from a check-sum made over the data packet[0199] and security level marking tag to form a datagram[0123], and thereafter sending the datagram to a second user domain via the connecting network, the second user domain is disclosed in Williams, because Williams discloses Mandatory access control is implemented at the sending and well as receiving/destination hosts[0103]. The receiving hosts is located on the second user domain.

4. As per claim 2, Williams discloses carried out as the datagram attempts to enter a second user domain, verifying the string in the received datagram matches a string calculated over the received data packet and security level marking tag[0036, 0053], and verifying the received security level marking tag matches the security level of the second user domain[0103, 0105, 0113, 0196]. The second user domain is disclosed in Williams, because Williams discloses Mandatory access control is implemented at the sending and well as receiving/destination hosts[0103]. The receiving hosts is located on the second user domain.
5. As per claim 3, Williams discloses encrypting each datagram before entry into the wide area network[0052, 0089, 0097].
6. As per claim 4, Williams discloses wherein datagrams from more than one user domain are encrypted by the same cryptograph(i.e. key)[0088-0089].
7. As per claims 5, 10, Williams discloses wherein the check-sum is a one-way hash function [0094].
8. As per claims 6, 11, Williams discloses wherein the one-way hash function is SHA-1[0074, 0097].
9. As per claims 7, 12, 15, Williams discloses recording any mismatch of checksum [0199] or security level marking tag [0196].
10. As per claims 8, 13, Williams discloses domain separator (i.e. NSC) for improving the security of computer communications over a connecting network arranged to carry out the method[0028].
11. As per claims 9, 14, 17, Williams discloses wherein the user domain security level marking is set by a physical switch on the device[0051, 0113, 0118].

12. As per claim 16, Williams discloses domain separator for improving the security of computer communications over a connecting network[0029, 0122].

Response to Applicant

13. The Applicant states that the present invention is directed to the security of communications between networks, rather than between individual computers. The Applicant states that the amended limitations, "at least one of the user domains which is connected by the network is itself a network of a plurality of computers". The Examiner disagrees with the Applicant. Williams discloses a plurality of user domains, at least one of which user domains includes a network of a plurality of computers, each of which user domains has a domain separator. Williams discloses this because a plurality of user domains is host(i.e. server) computers, Williams discloses the network includes various host computers which are connected to a network(0027)(see fig. 1-2). Each domain has a domain separator (i.e. security device)(see fig. 1-2). Williams discloses the security devices are interposed between each host(0029). The Applicant states that a domain is a network of computers that enables the computers which are connected thereto to communicate. Thus, Williams discloses the network ensures confidentiality and integrity of host-to-host communications(0032). Also, Williams discloses hosts may communicate with like hosts on the network(0055). Thus, Williams discloses a domain, because Williams discloses host to host communication.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jenise E. Jackson whose telephone number is (571) 272-3791. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) alternate Friday's.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



November 15, 2007



AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100